Postal small savings deposits

455. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a drop in the mobilization of postal small savings deposits recently due to higher rate of interest being offered by banks for deposits;

(b) if so, the details of the deposit mobilization and withdrawals during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 so far; and

(c) Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008 (up to June, 2007)
Deposit Mobilization	173308	154418	31002
Withdrawal	105737	117656	34211

(c) The decline in collections refer to *inter-alia*, investor's choice of alternative instruments for effecting savings. However, Central and State Governments take various measures to promote and popularize Small Savings schemes through print and electronic media as well as holding seminars and providing training to various agencies involved in mobilizing collection in Small Savings Schemes etc. A website of the National Savings Institute under Government of India, Ministry of Finance has also been launched to facilitate interface with public through wider dissemination of information on small savings and on-line registration and settlement of investor's grievances. The website address is *www.nsiindia.gov.in*.

Mobile network expansions project

456. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay in execution of BSNL's mobile network expansion project; and